

Statement of Luis Moquette to the Housing Committee, Feb. 8, 2011

Senator Gomes, Representative Butler and members of the Housing Committee,

My name is Luis Moquete and I live at Old Farms Crossing in Avon. Old Farms Crossing was built on Old Farms Road on an industrial site that was rezoned for multifamily residential homes for people with lower incomes. It was an 8-30g development and it has not only changed my life but, more important, changed the lives of my four children.

I have lived at Old Farms Crossing for 12 years, and it looks as attractive today as it did when I moved in. The yellow colonial buildings with white trim, the picket fences and the green space and recreation areas all provide a setting that has been great to raise children.

I work as a custodian for the town of Simsbury. My salary is adequate to pay my family's expenses, but I could never afford to live in Avon – and send my children to the Avon schools – if Old Farms Crossing didn't exist. The schools there have opened a new world to them and, for me, have provided me with job opportunities that I wouldn't have known about.

Also please understand that my family moved here from Frog Hollow in Hartford. I can tell you honestly that it is much easier to bring up children here. There was often noise and commotion in Frog Hollow. Here it is quiet and peaceful and we can concentrate on work and school and being together.

I know that you are faced with many competing ideas. But I can tell you honestly that 8-30g has provided me and my family with great opportunities. I hope you keep the law strong so other families can have that opportunity too.

Luis Moquette

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